

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated July 12, 2004. Claims 1-10 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 9 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1-10 thus remain for consideration.

Applicants submit that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

Abstract

The Abstract was objected to because the Examiner stated that he received only a marked up copy of the Abstract. According to the Revised Amendment Practice flyer mailed out with all Office Actions (effective July 30, 2003) an accompanying clean version is not required and should not be presented. Therefore, Applicants do not need to submit a clean version of the Abstract.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

§103 Rejections

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitagishi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,537,168) in view of Takahara (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,355 B1).

Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims (claims 1 and 6) are patentable over Kitagishi and Takahara.

Applicants' invention as recited in the independent claims is directed toward a liquid crystal projector apparatus and a driving method for the liquid crystal projector apparatus. Each of the claims recites "estimating a temperature of each of said plurality of liquid crystal panels by measuring and adding a temperature of the temperature sensor and a temperature of a time shift period of the power supply." Supporting disclosure for temperature estimating feature of Applicants' invention can be found in the specification at, for example, page 36, lines 1-8.

Neither Kitagishi nor Takahara discloses Applicants' process for indirectly estimating temperatures of liquid crystal panels. Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 1 and 6 are patentable over Kitagishi and Takahara – taken either alone or in combination – on at least this basis.

Claims 2-5 depend on claim 1. Since claim 1 is believed to be patentable over the cited references, claims 2-5 are believed to be patentable over the cited references on the basis of their dependency on claim 1.

Claims 7-10 depend on claim 6. Since claim 6 is believed to be patentable over the cited references, claims 7-10 are believed to be patentable over the cited references on the basis of their dependency on claim 6.

Applicants submit that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance

with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the Applicants undersigned attorney and, in the event that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

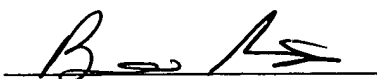
If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

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